

BROADWAY JONES

PROPERTY OF JOHNNIE SPEER

BROADWAY JONES

CAST

BOB
RANKIN
BROADWAY JONES
JUDGE
MRS GIRARD
CLARA
JOSIE

STAGE SETTING OFFICE WITH DESKS ETC WITH ENTRANCE C.

OPENING ENSEMBLE

(AFTER OPENING BOB ENTER C FOLLOWED BY RANKING.)

Bob

Are you sure he came here?

Rankin

Yes sir, I heard him talking over the phone, he was trying to get his uncle and after he couldn't I heard him say he was coming here to see him and he left on the four o'clock express.

Bob

Then he must be here, but his uncle's house is locked up.

Rankin

And no one in town seems to have seen him

Bob

Well I want to see him (pulls out paper) That's the best I ever heard.

Rankin

I beg y ur pardon but is it all right (looking over Bob's shoulder

Bob

about his engagement?

Rankin

Yes sir, about his engagement is it all right?

Bob

(smiling) I don't know whether its all right or not, thats what I am here to see him about he was at a dinner party last night. It was announced there I left before it happened Did he talk about it when he got home last night?

Ranking

He couldn't talk sir.

Bob

Tipsey?

Rankin

(confidentially) Stewed

Bob

Did he come home alone.

Rankin

There was a crowd serenaded him from the side walk for ten minutes after he arrived, I couldn't quite figure out why they were whistling the wedding march, but I knew this morning after I saw the papers.

Bob

Well, what do you think of it Rankin?

Rankin

You'll pardon me sir, but she is old enough to be his mother.

Bob

She is old enough to be his mother's mother.

Rankin

Yes, sir.

Bob

(reads from paper) Mrs James Gerard announces her engagement the three times widow is to share her millions with Broadway Jones, the announcement was made at an informal dinner, by the young spendthrift, in honor of the wealthy widow (throws paper down in disgust) That's the biggest laugh New York has had in years (Mrs Girard knocks at door off C) See who that is and if its a news paper reporter thats followed him out here don't let him in then bursh around the place and see if you can find Broadway.

Rankin

Yes sir (exit C)

Bob

What the devil possessed that fool to become engaged to that old woman anyway (Mrs G enter with Rankin)

Rankin

I don't know whetehr he is here or not, Mr Wallace and I followed him here from the city but we haven't seen him yet.

Mrs G

I know he must be here so I'll look about the place for him.

Rankin

I'll see if I can find him ma'am (exit)

Bob

Good mrong Mrs Girard

Mrs G

Good mrongin Mr Wallace, where is Mr Jones?

Bob

I followed him here from the city in hopes of finding him, won't you sit down (motions to chair L right of table)

Mrs G

Thank you, you ran away from the party early last night, you didn't wait for the announcement

Bob

(lights cigar) No I didn't.

Mrs G

You were surprised when y u heard it

Bob

Staggered

Mrs G

I thought you would be, what do you think of it our engagement?

Bob

What do you think of it?

Mrs G

I'm as happy as a little bird in a tree top

Bob

(laughs) You'll pardon me Mrs Girard, I was just thinking of something funny

Mrs G

Something that just happened?

Bob

No, something that ahappened years ago.

Mrs G

I thought for the moment that you were laughing at me.

Bob

Oh Mrs Gerard, how could you

Mrs G

Mrs G
I know I'm horribly sensitive in some respects. Mother always calls me a silly child.

Bob
Your mother is she still living?

Mrs G
Oh yes, and what a wonderful mother sixty five.

Bob
Sixty five children?

Mrs G
No, of course not.

Bob
Oh course not, what am I thinking of?

Mrs G
Ten children, five boys, and five girls; the baby they all call me.

Bob
I suppose most of the boys are still going to school?

Mrs G
Why of course not they are all married

Bob
Foolish youngsters.

Mrs G
Oh I don't know I married my first husband when I was eighteen (sighs) That's twenty long years ago.

Bob
Yes very long years ago, do you mean to tell me that---

Mrs G
Shhhh---I don't tell my age to everyone

Bob
I can readily understand that.

Mrs G
How old are you Mr Wallace?

Bob
I'll be twelve in August.

Mrs G
Twelve? Oh I see, you want me to add about twenty to that.

Bob
Yes, and about thrity to your own.

Mrs G
What?

Bob
Oh come now Mrs Gerard you don't expect me to believe that you are---

Mrs G
How dare you sir, do you know what you are saying?

Bob
I know what I'd like to say

Mrs G
About what?

Bob
About your engagement with young Jones, surely you're not taking this fellow seriously are you?

Mrs G
What do you mean?

Bob
Just what I say its all wrong, its laughabel The idea of a woman of your age imaginaing that that boy is fool enough to do such a thing Have you stopped to think what people will say? Don't you realize it can't be?

Mrs G
Are you trying to insult me?

Bob

No, I'm trying to save you from being humiliated and laughed at. Deny this story at once, say it was all a joke, but for Heavens sake don't let it go any further, surely you don't think he intends to marry you?

Mrs G

And why not?

Bob

Listen, you're a sensible woman. Give this a serious thought. Why you're twice his age.

Mrs G

What!

Bob

He's only twenty five!

Mrs G

You're a brute.

Bob

I'm your friend and trying to save you from becoming the laughing stock of the town

Mrs G

Do you mean to insinuate that Jackson doesn't love me

Bob

Jackson---love you, Jackson doesn't love anything but a good time. He doesn't take anything seriously especially women to my knowledge he has been engaged to thirty of them in the past two months.

Mrs G

I don't believe you.

Bob

Very well, go ahead its no affair of mine.

Mrs G

Then you'll do well to attend to your own business, Mr Wallace.

Bob

Excuse me, I'm sorry I spoke.

Jackson

(enters whistling) Ah, good morning folks, and what has my little banquet queen been doing this morning, Hello Bob?

Bob

(nods)

Mrs G

Jackson, why on earth did you run away, and what are you doing here?

Jackson

Oh I just thought I'd run down and see my uncle he lives here This is his office and he owns this chewing gum factory.

Mrs G

Well you arrived just in time, this man has been saying terrible things to me.

Jack

Bob, what have you been saying to my little Beatrice?

Mrs G

He called our engagement a ridiculous match and insinuated that you didn't love me.

Jack

Bob, I'm surprised at you, shame on you sir.

Bob

Oh rats (walks up and down stage) Won't you two be sensible.

Jack

Sensible?

Bob

Yes, a jokes, a joke, but you're carrying this thing too far.

Do you know that the whole city is laughing at the story of the engagement in the morning papers.

Mrs G

There he goes again

Bob

And you're making a fool of yourself and Mrs Girard.

Jack

Wait a minute.

Bob

See, you've got her believing its true, and pretty soon the whole town will be taking it just as seriously, and if you don't telephone the newspapers and deny this story I'll do it myself.

Mrs G

Jackson, are you going to stand there and allow this man---

Jack

Certainly not, now you listen to me Mr Wallace I'm over twenty one and can make a good bluff at handling my own affairs, without any particular reason you have insulted me and also this lady, and I demand an apology

Bob

Now look here Broadway (grabs him by coat)

Jack

(pushes him away) Don't do that, you've insulted my future wife and I demand an apology

Bob

You mean that you're really going to be married?

Jack

Of course we're going to be married

Mrs G

Of course we're going to be married

Bob

(to Jones) Well then I apologize

Jack

Not to me, to the lady

Bob

Mrs Girard accept my apologies I thought it was all a joke Might I ask you how long you have been engaged?

Jack

It happened last night like this (snaps fingers) There was only one question asked, will you marry me and I said yes

Mrs G

What!

Jack

I mean Beatrice said yes.

Mrs G

Yes, and we are going to spend our honeymoon in Spain.

Jack

Yes, and I'm going out this afternoon and buy a tamborine. (does Spanish dance)

Bob

Well I congratulate you both if this is serious

Mrs G

Oh thats all right, I think I'll go over to the hotel now Broadway and you must come over just as soon as you have seen your Uncle.

Jack

Do you know the way to the hotel, dear?

Mrs G

Yes, the taxie driver can take me there, you know I came straig from the train her.

Jack

Well come, Bob, we'll take her to the taxi anyway.

Bob

With pleasure (all exit adlib talk)

***** MUSICAL NUMBER ON*****

(BOB AND BROADWAY ENTER AFTER NUMBER)

Bob

Say, are you going crazy?

Jack

No I'm all right.

Bob

You mean to tell me---

Jack

Sit down, I've got something to say to you (Bob sits). Now in the first place I want you to understand that I am positively serious

about this whole affair, and nothing you can say will change my plans, now is that understood?

Bob

Yes, go on.

Jack

I am going to marry Mrs Girard in the near future and whether you like the idea or not, you've got to get used to it the same as I will, am I clear?

Bob

Well I'm listening.

Jack

I know several girls who will cry bitterly and others who will say its coming to me, and men will nudge each other in the side and wink, but the fact still remains that that woman who left this room a few moments ago is soon to be Mrs Jackson Jones. So get it out of your mind that this is a joke, and don't sit there with palbearer smile utter a few kind words, say-somethin (bus Bob starts to talk) But don't argue with me my mind is made up.

Bob

But think---

Jack

I have thought, and I know what other people will think that I'm marrying her for her money

Bob

Oh phsaw everybody knows that you have all the money you want

Jack

Do you think so?

Bob

Well haven't you?

~~/744/~~ Rankin

(enter L with telegram to Jack) Here is a telegram for you sir, Foolwed you all the way from New York

Jack

How did you know where I was? Oh yes I remember I wired my address to the Western Union from here all right I haven't got any time to pay any attention to telegrams its from some fool congratulating me I suppose. Now Rankin, if any one else comes here, reme ber, you are to let no one in this room understand?

Rankin

Perfectly sir.

Jack

Then go (Rankin exit) Now Bob, I'm going to let you in on one

a little secret, I wouldn't tell any one but you, and I wouldn't tell you only we've been like brothers but remember this is monosie

Bob

Why certainly.

Jack

Bob, I'm broke.

Bob

You're what?

Jack

Broke, dead broke, are you surprised?

Bob

Say what kind of a joke is this?

Jack

Its no joke to be broek Bob, and its worse than broke with me, I'm in debt.

Bob

In debt?

Jack

To the extent of fifty thousand dollars

Bob

What have you done with all your money?

Jack

Put it back into circulation where it came from?

Bob

You mean Wall Street

Jack

No, Broadway.

Bob

Investments gone wrong?

Jack

I never invested my money, the only thing I ever did was spend it.

Bob

But you couldn't spend all the money you had.

Jack

I didn't have any trouble getting rid of it, everybody seemed glad to get it.

Bob

But I always believed that you were a millionaire.

Jack

Well, I lied a little at that I could have been worth a million by now if I would have had any business ability, with the bank roll

I had to start with when I hit New York four years ago and started to burn up Broadway I had two hundred and fifty thousand dollars which my father left me when he died, I was only ten years old I didn't get it until I was twenty one. There was a lot of cash, some real estate and half interest in this chewing gum factory.

Bob

Yes.

Jack

All I wanted was cash, so I sold the real estate also my share in the factory to my uncle for one hundred thousand dollars for it, cheated me too Bob, you've heard me speak of the gum.

Bob

Yes, Jone's Pepsin.

Jack

Yes, thats right Jones Pepsin made right here, the oldest gum on the market, this twon is named after the Jones, or the gum, I don 't know which,ever chew any of it?

Bob

No

Jack

Then don't itsaywifal

Well go on with your story.

Bob

Well I ran through that two hundred and fifty thousand and when I realized that I was broke, I went out and tried to get a regular job. I wound up by joining the Salvation Army ever join the Salvation Army?

Bob

No, certainly not.

Jack

Well don't especially in Newark but I'm broke and I've tried to keep it hidden you know that new French car of mine that I told you I had in storage?

Bob

Yes.

Jack

Well its not, I sold it to get spending money and that jewelry I told you I lost went the same way.

Bob

Well you kept it a secret from everyone pretty well

Jack

Of course I had to Its going to go against my disposition, but I'm going further in debt every day with no chance to get out, I tell you its been tough So Bob while I was sitting at that banquet looking at Mrs Girard and thinking of her millions, I wondered what she would do if I told her my story I didn't realize what I was doing but I suppose I was staring at the woman for fully ten minutes when a waiter came up ~~and~~ and handed me a note

Bob

A note?

Jack

Yes it was from her----it read "why do you stare at me?"

Bob

And what did you say?

Jack

Bob, I was desperate.

Bob

Well what did you say?

Jack

I wrote back---well because I love you

Bob

Did she answer that?

Jack

Yes---I love you too

Bob

And your answer.

Jack

Not as much as I love you, oh we had quite a correspondence six or seven notes each way

Bob

She sent the last one

Jack

Yes, will you marry me?

Bob

She proposed to you?

Jack

On the level.

Bob

And you said yes?

Jack

I didn't put it in writing the letter carrier lost his job right then and for fear she would change her mind before the mail arrived I leaned right over the table and hollered yes.

What happened then?

Bob

Jack

"he fainted----table deserted---smelling salts-- where am I! Embrace
Kiss somebody ordered twenty cases of wine I got drunk and don't remember
anything until I got home. Now what do you think of that?

Bob

And why didn't you come here

Jack

Can't you see? MY creditors will be wanting their money pretty soon
and I can't afford to let them know I'm broke until I get my hands on
that million so I came here to make an appeal to my uncle to loan me
a few thousand until then

Bob

But its such a contemptible thing to marry a woman for her money

Jack

Who said I was marrying her for her money?

Bob

You don't mean that you love her?

Jack

If you were broke and owed fifty thousand dollars wouldn't you love
anybody who pulled you out and paid your debts, well I guess yes,
besides the engagements---been announced

Bob

Everybody will know that you are marrying her for her money and you
will lose every friend that you have in the world

Jack

A man with money never loses his friends I know that.

Bob

I'm going to see if I can get you out of this, how much do you owe?

Jack

About fifty thousand dollars I don't know ~~exactly~~ exactly. I
brought the bills with me, they're in the next room, what to look at
them?

Bob

Yes. You find something else to do and I'll run them up. If I find
some way to get you out of this will you give up this fool marriage,

Jack

Too late, the engagements been announced,

Bob

We'll break the engagement. I'm going in and look over those bills.
(exit)

Jack

And I'll go out and look up Rankin and find out where my dear uncle
is keeping himself. He's a business man and its time he was down at the
office. (exit C D)

***** NUMBER TWO *****

JACK

(ENTER AFTER NUMBER) I've lost Rankin now (phone rings Jack removes
receiver) Hello, Hello. Yes, thats me. but who are you? Pembroke
of the Consolidated Chewing gum company what want to buy me out? I
don't own any chewing gum factory, thats my uncle. Whats that? be right
down to see me, what. Give me twelve hundred thousand for the factory. W
well if it was mine I'd sell it for half of that and then run (hangs up
phone) He asked me if I hadn't heard (hands in pocket) By George
I forgot to open this telegram (bus) Cablegram from D. Graham, London
Announcing your uncles death recieved last night. His last will places
you in possession of the estate. He leaves his entire fortune to you.
Come down as soon as possible, Judge Spotswood. (looks at telegram)
Why that wire was sent to me in New York and forwarded to me here, huh
why it was sent from here. This is where JUDGE Spotswood lives.

Oh ho thats why the Consolidated Chewing Gum factory offered me twelve thousand dollars for this old factory. Well, watch me sell it. (at phone) Long distance please connect me with the Consolidated Chewing Gum Co Hello, yes, this is Jackson Jones talking. You know my uncle died leaving me this chewing gum factory. Is this the one you offered me eighteen hundred thousand dollars for a few moments ago. Yes, you can do a little better than that. Never mind; I'm coming right inot New York to close the deal. Have the money ready for me (hangs up)

Bob

(enter L) Well, I've added them up and you owe sixty thousand eight hundred----

Jack

(dances around) Never mind, I don't care if its a hundred and sixty one or whatever you said, read that (hands telegram to Bob) An angel with wings flew in here and handed me that little message, read it----I tell you its right from Heaven.

Bob

(reads) His entire fortune to you un conditionally -----God.

Jack

Is it signed by him?

Bob

Judge Spotswood who is he?

Jack

He's my uncle's lawyer here, he lives right around the corner.

Bob

Say is this a joke?

Jack

If it is I'll make a reputaton as a gun man that will make one Wm S Hart look like a piker.

Bob

Why this is the most wonderful thing that ever happened.

Jack

I should say it is. Do you know what I'm going to do, I'm going to buy that city of Brooklyn and close it up. The Consolidated Chewing Gum people have offered me twelve hundred thousand dollars for this outfit, and maybe I'm not going to grab it. You know them.

Bob

I should say I do, They're the biggest advertisers in our firm, have you signed any agreement with them to sell?

Jack

No told them to have the money waiting and I'll be in New York on the first train to close the deal.

Bob

Well, you're not going to see, YOU've been a damn fool all your life and now heres a chance to get even with yourself.

Jack

Turn down a million and two hundred thousand dollars?

Bob

Yes.

Jack

Not on your biograph--no sir.

Bob

What you need is a keeper and I'm going to take that job.

Jack

Now look here---it is as gone far enought. First you tell me that I can't marry, and now you tell me that I can't sell my own business.

Bob

Say I'm a business man, not a nincoopoop like you, but I'm going to make a business man out of you. Now you call up Judge Spotswood and tell him to come right up here to this office and get things straightened out,

Jack

It seems strang to see you with grown children. Why Clara is a grown lady, and pretty too.

Judge

Yes, its been a good many years since you left the old town----in fact you've never been back, and your uncle felt hurt because you never visited him.

Jack

I thought I was in bad with my uncle. I can't undrestand it yet. Why he left me his fortunre. You know I thought he hated me.

Judge

Oh no. Of course he was a little put out because you didn't keep up the partnership where your father left off----but he was real fond of you. He never married or had any children of his own, and he felt that as your father had built the plant it ríghtfully should go to you. You know that your father was the one that made it a real success and that is the reason why your uncle never sold out to the trust.

Jack

Whats the plant worth, Judge?

Judge

The Consolidated people offered him twelve hund red thousand for it. You see those trust fellows have been making it warm for your uncle because he wouldn't sell. Tied him up someway so he couldn't get any advertising and he put what dash he had on hand back into the business.

Jack

You mean t at there is no cash with the estate?

Judge

There is nothing besides the plant and the old home.

Jack

How is a fellow to run it with money or any business ability?

Judge

Oh you needn't worry. Wait until Miss Richards comes. I think the plan t did show a profit last year, She can tell you exactly what it is.

Jack

I don't mind telling you Judge, that the Consolidated Company have offered me twelve hundred thousand for the plant only this mornning.

Judge

But you are not going to sell?

Jack

Well----(enter Josie and Bob C D followed by Clara)

Judge

Here is Miss Richards/ Hello Josie.

Josie

Good morning, Judge.

Judge

This gentleman is Mr Jones. Miss Richards, Miss Richards was your uncle's private secretary and is familiar with the business I'll leave you with her.

Jack

Bob, I want to talk over the details of the business with Miss Richards. Take Clara down to the d ug store and buy her an ice cream soda.

Bob

(to Clara) Do you like ice cream sodas?

Clara

Just crazy about them (giggles)

Bob

Come along then, you come too, Judge (exit C)

Judge

I'll be back in a little while Broadway (exit C)

Jack

Miss Richards, I'm delighted to see you. May I call you, Josie?

Josie

Why yes, Mr Jones, if you prefer.

Jack

I certainly do. Now the judge tells me that you are acquainted with this business and could tell me all about it. He also tells me that it showed a profit last year. How much?

Josie

It showed a profit of nearly fifty thousand dollars last year, Mr Jones.

Jack

Now that wasn't so bad, was it?

Josie

I should say not, considering the fact that we were fighting the trust. Its the best chewing gum in the world, Mr Jones.

Jack

Do you think so?

Josie

Why yes, don't you?

Jack

Yes, yes. Now look here Josie. I want to see if I'm in a position to hold out for the bigger price from this chewing gum trust. They have made me an offer of over a million dollars but Mr Wallace wants me to hold out for more. He's my best friend and understands business. But I don't know what to do, how is business right now?

Josie

We did over a hundred and twenty thousand dollars worth of business last month.

Jack

A hundred and twenty thousand dollars worth of business? Say can I go down to the bank and get that money right now?

Josie

Why certainly not.

Jack

You don't understand. Now this is between us, you see I'm broke I'm in debt, and I must get some money quike, and I want to know how much cash you have in the bank right now.

Josie

About eighteen thousand dollars I should think (looks in book she carries) I hope your not thinking seriously of going over

Jack

Going over where?

Josie

To the trust.

Jack

Why, don't you think the price they offer is big enough?

Josie

It isn't a question of price, Mr Jones; its the principle of the thing.

Jack

You'll have to explain that to me.

Josie

Why think of what you're selling. The thing that your grandfather worked hard for and handed down to your father. The thing that he worked hard for and handed down to you, and its the thing that you should work hard for and hand down to your children, and they

to their children, and so on and so on. Why, think of what you're selling.

-- Jack

I can't see wheres there any sentiment connected with this thing.

Josie

You can't. You'd ruin this town, the town you were born in. You'd see seven hundred boys and girls turned out of employment. YOU'd see the very bread and butter taken out of their mouths and the mouths of their families. You'd see all this without regret?

Jack

How is all this going to happen?

Josie

Because if you sell to the trust it means that this plant will close

Jack

Why?

Josie

They manufacture their gum in Ohio.

Jack

Are you sure about that?

Josie

Positive.

Jack

Well, yousee, you see it isn't my fault, but if thats the case I'm awfully sorry. But you see circumstance are such that I can't help that now.

Josie

I'd give it a very serious thought, if I were you Mr Jones. It would be great of you to stand b and protect the people of this little town. You've got a chace to do something big, something really wonderful. I---I hope you'll do it, and I ---I think you will before you make up your mind you had better come back here and ~~take a look at the plant~~ look the plant over (puts her hands on his shoulders) and then come back here and think it over. Mr Jones, I'm leaving a piece of the chewing gum with you. Its only a sample (puts gum on table) I'll be back when you want me.

Jack

All right (JOSIE exits Jack turns picks up gum and looks at it)

Clara

(off stage) Not going so soon are you, Josie?

Josie

(off stage) Yes, but I'll be back in a little while. I think Mr Jones will need me then.

Clara

All right. If I'm not there, I'll be over home. Stop in as you're going home.

Josie

All right, thank you.

Clara

(enter with Bob) Oh that ice cream was fine

Bob

I'm glad you like it (Jack still looking at gum)

Clara

When I was in New Y rk last summer I used to go to Buylers every day for ice cream s da. Do you ever gothere?

Bob

Its funny you like the same flavor I do

Clara

Yes it is strange, isn't it?

Bob

You kow there isn't anything I like so well as orange ice cream soda

Jack
(drops gum on floor, and looks at Bob, then slowly picks gum up)

Clara
I'll have to run over to the house for a few minutes now, but I'll be back

Bob
I'll be waiting

Clara
Thats nice (giggles)

Bob
Isn't it.

Clara
Good bye (waves hand and exits L 2)

Bob
Good bye (waves hand turns to Jack) Say, I was just talking to a fellow at the drug store about this business and he says that he believes if you hold out for a few days the trust will give two million dollars for this plant. What do y u think of that?

Jack
Bob, I've given this thing a whole lot of thought and I can't sell the plant.

Bob
You can't

Jack
(seriously) You don't know, you haven't heard. Why just think what I would be selling (picks up piece of chewing gum from stand) Now you figure this thing out. See this Heres the thing my grandfather worked hard for and handed down to my father, and the thing my father worked hard for and handed down. Now this is the thing I ought to work hard for and hand down to my children, and then to their children and so on and so on.

Bob
(looking at him intently) Say, what the hell 's the matter with you?

Jack
And I'm going to do it (exit left two)

Bob
I don't know what it is that you are going to do, but I'll trail you along and see that you do it. (exit l 2)

C ***** NUMBER FOUR *****
(ENTER JOSIE AND THE JUDGE L 2)

Josie
Yes I hope he stays, Judge.

Judge
What do you think of him?

Josie
Oh he has a heart. Its never been touched yet. The men in the factory want to know what he's going to do.

Judge
Well, why don't you tell them?

Josie
Because I don't know myself.

Judge
I met him a few moments ago and he was with his friend and couldn't tell me much But I think you have made an impression with him

Josie
Do you really think so?

Judge
I do, and b2. I believe Broadway will surprise us all yet. I think I'll go out and find him and try to sound him out.

Josie
I wouldn't. I'd let him use his own judgement.

Judge

Well maybe that would be a good idea (looking L) Here comes Clara now with his friend. I'll be down at the drug store if you want me for anything ---Josie (starts to go Bob and Clara enter left two)

Bob

Don't let us run you away Judge.

Judge

I'll be down at the drug store if you need me (exit left two)

Clara

Father likes ice cream sodas too (giggles)

Bob

Perhaps you inherited the taste from him

Clara

Well I suppose you want to talk business with Josie and Mr Jones But I'll be back, Mr Jones.

Bob

I'll be waiting Miss Spotswood.

Clara

Everybody calls me Clara (giggles)

Bob

Oh you Clara.

Clara

Oh you Robert.

Bob

Bye Bye.

Clara

(giggles and exits L 2)

Josie

Where did Mr Jones go?

Bob

He's out there walking up and down like a caged lion. What have you done to him? I never saw him this serious before in my life.

Josie

I only told him what an opportunity he had here to do something worth while.

Bob

You certainly must have had a convincing way about you. Its the first time I ever saw him really serious.

Josie

I'm glad.

Bob

So am I. Broadway's got the stuff in him but he has never had an occasion to show it before. I think he would be a fool to sell this plant, and I told him so

Josie

You too then think its wrong?

Bob

Certainly, a proposition that showed a profit that this plant did last year without any advertising. Why its wonderful. I know what I'm talking about. I'm with the biggest advertising firm in New York

Josie

But we couldn't advertise except in a small way, and the big firm would not handle a petty contract.

Bob

Why didn't you try the Empire?

Josie

We did. They refused to handle us at all You see they do most of the Consolidated work. I guess thats the reason

Bob

Oh no we don't make any agreements of that kind. No corporation can dictate to us. The

The Empire is ~~my~~ my firm. My father is the president.

Josie

Oh well then perhaps you know all about it

Bob

And you say they refused to handle your work?

Josie

Absolutely.

Bob

(thinks a moment then goes to phone) If Broadway is going to keep this plant and stick to it, I'm going to do everything I can to help him. May I use the phone for a moment?

Josie

Certainly

Bob

(at phone) Hello. Long distance please (to Josie) You know that is a pretty rotten trick if it is so. Its not right to squeeze the little fellow out like that. You're sure it was the Empire?

Josie

Yes, we tried all the big advertising firms.

Bob

There isn't any other big advertising firm, if there was we'd whip it over to the Empire mighty quick. (in phone) Hello---long distance I want New York 444 Spring- -Mr Grover Wallace---just a minute (to Josie) What is this number?

Josie

Two two main.

Bob

Two two Main, the Jones's plant---all right (hangs up receiver) There must be some mistake about this Miss Richards.

Josie

I have all the correspondence if you care to see them

Bob

I'd like to very much

Josie

I'll look for it in a few moments. I will have to take this daily report out to the foreman of the factory first (goes up to C D)

Bob

All right. I'll just stick around if you don't mind. Until Broadway comes back.

Josie

All right (exit C D)

Bob

If Broadway is going to stay here I'm going to do my share to make it a go (Judge and Broadway enter C D)

Judge

and if you do make up your mind to stay Broadway, this town will owe you a great debt.

Jack

Don't talk about it, Judge, please (sits at desk)

Bob

This is a pretty nice office the old gentleman had here, Judge.

Judge

~~Yes, it seems strange though not see see him sitting at that desk (points) First old Oscar Jones sat there and he died ----then John sat there and he died---the Andrew sat there and he died---then---~~

Jack

That's the last time I'll ever sit there

Judge

Every man in the plant loved the old gentleman.

Bob

Bob

Pardon me for changing the subject, Judge, but is there a telegraph office in this town?

Judge

Why of course there is.

Bob

Would you mind walking down there with me? I have something important to say to you

Jack

Whats up?

Bob

Never mind. I may have som thing to tell you when I get back. Come Judge. (Judge and Bob exit L 2)

Jack

I wonder whats up with one Robert Wallace?

Josie

(enter C D) Mr Jones, the men in the factory want to know what you are going to do?

Jack

What do you mean by that?

Josie

They are sending a committee of men up here to find out what you are going to do about selling that factory.

Jack

What business is it of theirs?

Josie

None, only they want to know how to arrange about their future. If you are going to sell the plant to the consolidated peop le it means that they will have to look for employment elsewhere. and some of them have large families to take care of.

Jack

I'll take care of them---I mean the men---and they can take care of their own familes. I don't mind telling, you Josie, I have thought this thing all out. And the Standard Oil Company couldn't buy this factory now. I'm going to stick to it and make the same fight to make it a winner that my uncle did.

Josie

I knew you would.

Jack

You did---Now I don't know anything about business. I don't know anything about making money, I never did a days work in my life because I never had to. The only contest I ever had was to see who could stay up the latest ever night. I have never done any good because I never had anything good to do. What I needed all along was an incentive to spur me op, to inspire me to bring me to a realization of---a realization of---can you beat that? (takes out paper from pocket and hand it to Josie) I knew the thing by heart a little while ago. Read the rest of it, I wrote it out there (points) and tried to learn it-- not a chance in the world but you just go and---and run the firm just like you always have and I'll go along back to New York tomorrow and leave it with you.

Josie

Do you mean that you are not going to stay here with your business?

Jack

Will I hav to live in this town to own this business---looks to me like it would get along better without me being here.

Josie

But think of what a chance you would have here on the grounds to learn the chewing gum business.

Jack

I don't want to know the chewing gum business. All I want to do is make money.

Josie
But you can't make money unless you know the chewing gum business.

Jack
I am afraid the firm will be bankrupt in two weeks

Josie
Will you listen to me and take my advice?

Jack
I'll take any advice you will be kind enough to hand out.

Clara
(enter L 2) Do I intrude?

Jack
Not at all, we were talking about chewing gum, and the more we talk the less I know

Josie
Well now that Clara is here, I'll go out to the factory and tell the men what you said

Jack
I suppose you had better tell them. They know you better than they do me

Josie
I'll be back in a few minutes (exit C D)

Clara
Has Mr Wallace gone back to New York?

Jack
Why he wouldn't think of doing such a thing without telling you good bye.

Clara
Now you're only joking. (giggles)

Jack
No I'm not, honest (giggles)

Clara
You know I think he's awful nice.

Jack
Do you? Shall I tell him you said that?

Clara
Yes, he treated me to an ice cream soda and bought me a box of chocolates too

Jack
He doesn't care what he does with his money

Clara
He doesn't.

Jack
No, he spent over two dollars in one night, one time

Clara
He must have just thrown it away

Jack
Can you beat it?

Clara
Do you know where father went to

Jack
He went down to the telegraph office with Mr Wallace.

Clara
I think I'll go and look for him

Jack
Who, Wallace?

Clara
No father, of course (giggles)

Jack
Well I think I'll look for Miss Josie. I just thought of something I want to tell her. You tell Wallace to hurry back I'm a business man now.

Clara
All right (giggles and exits left two)

Jack
 And you hurry back too
 ***** NUMBER FIVE *****
 (ENTER JOSIE AND JACK C D)

JOSIE
 They think it is just splendid of you I know they do, The news
 hasn't reached the men yet. But as soon as it does you will hear
 their gratitude

Jack
 I'm glad I've done something to make someone beside myself feel
 good for once in my life.

Josie
 No if you are going to remain in this town -----why don't you open
 your uncle home?

Jack
 My uncle's home/

Josie
 Yes its a grand old place and I know you will like it much better
 than the hotel.

Jack
 Don't mention that hotel; its named the grand but its one grand jip.

Josie
 All the more reason you should open the old home.

Jack
 Perhaps I will. After all, maybe I'll make a model country gentleman.

Josie
 This must seem strange to you after the life you have been leading.

Jack
 What do you know about the life I've been living?

Josie
 Oh I mean New York, thats such a great big wonderful place, isn't it?

Jack
 Have you ever been to New York?

Josie
 No---never.

Jack
 Would you like to go there?

Josie
 I don't think I should like to live there. I would like to see
 New York.

Jack
 Well I can show it to you. It took me four hours to get there
 and it took me five years to get back.

Josie
 You had a long trip. What is Broadway?

Jack
 Broadway?

Josie
 A street?

Jack
 Sure its the greatest street in the world.

Josie
 Some people say its terrible.

Jack
 Philadelphia people.

Josie
 And some people say its wonderful

Jack
 Thats just it, its terribly wonderful.

Josie
 I don't understand.

Jack
Nobody understands Broadway. People hate it and don't know why.
Love it and don't know why. I guess its just because its Broadway.

Josie
Tomorrow is Sunday.

Jack
Is it?

Josie
I suppose you go to church every Sunday morning?

Jack
Whats that again?

Josie
I say I suppose you go to church every Sunday morning.

Jack
I go to Churchills every Sunday night (gets up laughing)

~~J/9/4~~ Bob
(enter L) Well Broadway, getting some tips on the run of business?

Jack
Yes, and several other things.

Bob
Miss Richards, did you find that correspondence for me from my firm?

Josie
No, I'll go get them right now, Mr Wallace

Bob
If you please.

Josie
Very well (exit C D to L)

Jack
What correspondence?

Bob
Never mind, answer me this Broadway. Do you mean that you are
going to stick through this and keep the plant?

Jack
I certainly do.

Bob
Thats the best thing I ever heard you say in your life. We have
been pretty good friends. When you wasn't worth your salt, and
now that you're a man we are going to be better friends. There's
my hand (offers hand which Jack takes) My heart goes with it,
and also my bank account to the last dollar. You will find me
a friend.

Jack
Thnaks old man, you can help me I suppose. I won't use any of
your money because I don't want to go any farther in devt. but your
a business man and your advice will be valuable (phone rings)

Bob
Thats for me I think.

Jack
(answer phone) Hows that? (turns to Bob) Yes, its for you (in phone)
All right, hold the wire.

Bob
(at phone) Hello, is that you Govenor? Well this is Bob. Say
I can get a big contract from the Jones Pepsin Company. They are
going in heavy for some new advertising. New owners take possess-
ion today. I think I'll make a splendid deal. Hows that? Use
my own judgement. All right, send me a wire authorizing me to make
a contract with them---backing. Oh their solid. Got plenty of
money.

Jack
(makes motion to Bob) No---no.

Bob
(to Jack) Shut up (in phone) All right, good bye I'll be home tomorrow
(hangs up phone)

Jack
What are you ~~4/4/4/4~~ going to do?

Bob
I'm going to New York and recover it with advertising for the Jones Pepsin Company. Tomorrow for a starter.

Jack
Where is all the money coming from to pay for this advertising what are you trying to do, ruin me?

Bob
I'll draw the contract myself and give you a year to pay for it.

Jack
Great Scott, I can't afford to take a chance like that Bob. I don't know a thing about the chewing gum business.

Bob
Say will you give me all over a million you make the next year if I give you the advertising free?

Jack
Over a million, I should say I will.

Bob
(shake hands with your new partner) (they shake) I told you I was with you and I am.

Jack
I believe you are/ And I fell like we'll make it too.

Bob
I know we'll make it.

Rankin
(knocks at door L 2)

Bob
That may be some one business, Now sit down at the desk and look business like

Jack
What, sit at that desk in that chair after what the Judge said. No sir, I don't want to be the next to die (changes chairs at desk sits and puts feet on desk) Come in.

Rankin
(enters L 2) I beg your pardon sir, but Mrs Girard - ---

Jack
Mrs Girard (to Bob) Good Lord, I forgot all about her.

Bob
You have started a new life. You don't need her.

Jack
I know, but how am I going to get rid of her?

Bob
Leave that to me, Rankin, you go to Mrs Girard and tell her that Mr Jones is not in. Tell her that he was suddenly called to New York and left a half hour ago. Say anything. but get her on the train for New York and go with her to see that he gets there and if you do this I will buy you a house and lot anywhere in the United States that you want/

~~4/4/4/4~~ Jack
Say you want to get rid of that woman as bad as I do.

Bob
Do you feel that way about it?

Jack
I certainly do. My feelings for Mrs Girard have changed since I have become a business man

Bob
You hear that Rankin? You have Mr Jones's permission to drown Mrs Girard. Do anything you want with her, but get rid of her, get her out of town.

Rankin

I don't understand, sir.

Bob

Well you better undrestand, don't fail.

Rankin

I won't sir (exit L 2)

Jack

Let us hope he succeeds in getting rid of that old cromo (loud cheers off R)

Josie

(enter C D) Do you hear that Mr Jones? (Judge and Clara enter L)

Jack

What is it?

Judge

They are overjoyed at the news of your decision to remain here and keep the old plant open instead of selling to the trust.

Onnes

(outside) Speech, speech, Broadway, speech.

Judge

Go out my boy and make them a speech.

Jack

A speech? I never made a speech in all my life when I was sober. I mean to a sober lot of men. No I mean---I don't know what I mean. You see the thought of it confuses me.

Onnes

(outside) Speech Speech!

Judge

They will expect you to make somekind of an answer, and they will think a great deal more of you. They are all good men and I would like to see them love you as they did your uncle.

Jack

Bob, you go and make a speech for me. You're a good toast maker. No I mean speaker. I can't make no speech

Josie

(hands him paper) Here take this and read it to them.

Jack

You have got a way of doing everything right. I'll raise your salary for this (goes up to C D)

Judge

Good boy Broadway.

Jack

(bus in door) Why think of what I'd be selling. The thing my Grandfather worked for and handed down to my father. The thing my father worked for and handed down to me. The thing that I should work for and hand down to my children, and then to their children and so on and so on (exit C D R) (Josie follows Jones off Bob exits R 2 Judge and Clara L 2)

***** NUMBER SIX *****

(BOB AND CLARA ENTER L 2)

Bob

Broadway did better than I expected of him.

Clara

Yes, he's quite a speech maker, isn't he (giggles)

Bob

Well they seem to think so out there (points right)

Clara

Are you going to remain here with him?

Bob

Yes, I am going to buy a half interest in the gum factory.

Clara

Oh won't that be fine? Then you can't be so extravagant as you have been.

Bob

Extravagant?

Clara

Yes Mr Jones has been telling me how extravag^{an}you were in New York.

Bob

Oh he did, did he?

Clara

He said you spent as much as two dollars in one night.

Bob

Oh did he tell you about that night? Well I will never do it in this town.

Clara

No

Bob

No, I don't want to buy the town.

Clara

Now you funnin (giggles)

Bob

Just to show you I'm not, I'll go out and buy you another ice cream soda.

Clara

Oh I don't think I could drink more than one a day.

Bob

Come on, lets make this a red letter day, and drink two.

Clara

All right if you really insist, but its awful extravag^{an}t.

Bob

Come, on what do ~~we~~ we care for a dime?

Clara

Now your funnin again. (giggles)

Bob

Yes I'm funnin again, aren't I the out up (both exit L laughing)

(Jack and Judge enter C D)

Jack

I think I have shaken hands with everybody in the world

Judge

Yes they certainly seem to like you

Jack

Like me I thought my arm had turned into a pump handle (phone rings)
Hello whats that Consolidated Chewing Gum Company. Yes this
is Jones coming in to close the deal? What deal? No you're on
the wrong wire or you have got this one crossed, I'm not going to
sell out. I wouldn't take two million for this plant. All right
go ahead and fight. I've got the Empire advertising Company
back of me and they are worth as much as you are (pause) Oh I
thought that would put a new face on the matter? I'll be ready
to buy the trust out in two monhts. Oh ring off, you can't
do a thing, not a thing (hangs up phone) What do you think of
that? Those people wanted to make me sell out to them?

Judge

But you won't.

Jack

You bet your life I won't. I'm going to make some more chewing
gum, more than the old town ever saw, and tomorrow I'm going to
open my uncles home and be a regular man.

Judge

Let me congratulate you on your good sense my boy.

Jack

Don't congratulate me, congratulate the young lady that s working
for me.

Judge
You mean Josie?

Jack
Exactly.

Judge
I always did say that Josie had some heavenly mission on this earth (exit L)

Rankin
(knocks on door L 2)

Jack
Come in (Rankin enters L 2) Strange, Rankin, I was thinking of you

Rankin
Yes sir, here I am

Jack
Well why are you here, you ought to be on your way to New York
Well, don't stand there, what's the news?

Rankin
Surprising news, sir.

Jack
// It would be hard to surprise me with anything now. How did you get rid of her?

Rankin
I didn't get rid of her.

Jack
Where did you leave her?

Rankin
I didn't leave her. I've been with her ever since she left here awhile ago.

Jack
Where is she?

Rankin
Over at the hotel.

Jack
You let her remain here? Why didn't you get rid of her?

Rankin
She insist on seeing you and talking to you, sir.

Jack
I won't see her. I won't talk to her.

Rankin
But you must see her. She's pretty reconciled believe me.

Jack
Reconciled? You mean that she understands that I---

Rankin
Oh yes sir, she has already sent out her denial of her engagement to you in the form of another announcement.

Jack
You mean that she is engaged to someone else?

Rankin
Yes sir, we are to be married tomorrow.

Jack
You and Mrs Girard are going to be married?

Rankin
I think it is best sir, for all concerned.

Jack
What?

Rankin
I am doing this for you, sir. If you will pardon, me I will be going sir. I am leaving your service.

Jack
Look here Rankin, do you mean to tell me that you would do such a low thing as to deliberately marry a woman for her money?